

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/696,981

Examiner

Leo Boutsikaris

Applicant(s)

LIU ET AL.

Art Unit

2872

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 9/7/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 7-11, 13-22 and 24-37.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-5, 7-11, 13-22, 24-37 are allowed.

Claims 1-5, 7-11, 13-22, 24-37 are allowable for at least the reason that even though the prior art discloses multilayer optical adhesives, the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest, regarding claims 1, 4-5, 13-16, 20-21, a multilayer optical composite comprising four or more layers, wherein the indices of refraction of the layers of the multilayer optical adhesive increase between n_1 and n_i in the order of position from the first layer, regarding claims 2-3, 7-11, 17-19, 26-30, a multilayer optical composite wherein the multilayer optical adhesive comprises three or more adhesive layers, and the indices of refraction of the layers of the multilayer optical adhesive increase between n_1 and n_i in the order of position from the first layer, regarding claim 22, a multilayer optical article, wherein the multilayer optical adhesive consists essentially of 5 to 15 adhesive layers having indices of refraction that increase monotonically between n_1 and n_i , and regarding claims 31-33, a method of reducing reflectivity between two optical layers having indices of refraction n_1 and n_i , respectively, where n_i is greater than n_1 , wherein the indices of refraction of intermediate adhesive layers are between n_1 and n_i and they increase monotonically from layer 1 to layer i , as set forth by the claimed combination.

Regarding claims 24-25, 34-37, even though the prior art discloses a multilayer optical adhesive comprising a first adhesive layer having a refractive index n_{a1} , and a second adhesive layer having a refractive index n_{ai} , with a polymeric intermediate layer between the two adhesive

Art Unit: 2872

layers, the prior art does not teach or reasonably suggest a multilayer optical adhesive and a method of making such a multilayer adhesive, wherein the polymeric intermediate layer has a refractive index between n_{a1} and n_{ai} , as set forth by the claimed combination.

In Parker's glass laminate, the intermediate polymeric layer 12 has a refractive index which is greater than the refractive index of both adjacent optical adhesive layers 13 (see Table in Example 3, col. 10).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Leo Boutsikaris whose telephone number is 571-272-2308.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Leo Boutsikaris, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner, AU 2872
October 2, 2004



DREW A. DUNN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER